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CLASSIFICATION RESTRICTED SECURITY INFORMATION CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT

INFORMATION FROM FOREIGN DOCUMENTS OR RADIO BROADCASTS

CD NO.

COUNTRY

German Democratic Republic

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SUBJECT

Economic - Prices

DATE OF INFORMATION

HOW

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PUBLISHED

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Daily newspapers

DATE DIST. 21 Apr 1952

WHERE

PUBLISHED

Germany

NO. OF PAGES

DATE PUBLISHED

6 Oct - 9 Dec 1951

LANGUAGE

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SUPPLEMENT TO

REPC ₹T NO.

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SOURCE

Newspapers as indicated.

# PRICE REDUCTIONS IN HO SHOPS OF GDR

Mumbers in parentheses refer to appended sources.

The following price reductions, effective 8 October 1951, have been announced for the HO (Trade Organization) shops in German Democratic Republic and East

<u>Item</u>	Reduction
Jpun rayon textiles	(%)
Knit outer garments Knit underwear Stockings and socks Shirts and sport shirts, underwear Pajamas and nightgowns	20 10 20 35 10
Cotton and artificial silk textiles	10
Underwear, jersey type Stockings and socks Shirts and sport shirts Underwear Pajamas and nightgowns Silk and artificial silk scarfs and kerchiefs	20 20 20 20 20 20
Voven goods	20 ,
Upholstering and interior decorating material Spun rayon curtains and lace Linen yard goods for shirts Linen bed sheets, tablecloths, household linen	20 40 30 30

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Item Ready-made clothing Children's clothes of all materials except spun rayon 15 20 25 25 Nutria fur coats Mink fur coats Leather gloves, unlined Children's shoes, all kinds of leather except neat's leather and kid 25 Soap 10 Furniture and upholstered furniture, except period furniture 23 Casseroles, milk jugs, and bowls of aluminum alloys 13 Roll film 30 Flat film 50 Household brushes 20 Decorative porcelain 20

# Old and New Prices Compared

<u> Item</u>	Unit	Old Price (DM)	New Price (DM)	Price Reduction (%)
Men's sweaters, spun rayon	each	28.50	23.50	18
Ladies' sweaters, spun rayon	each	42.00	34.00	· 19
Men's underpants, spun rayon	each	7.20	6.55	9
Men's underpants, cotton	each	12.00	8.80	26
Men's polo shirts, artificial				
silk	each	32.00	26.50	17
Men's shirts, cotton ··	each	52.50	42.00	20
Men's shirts, spun rayon	each	26.00	16.75	35
Men's pajamas, cotton	each	58.00	45.00	22
Ladies' underwear, two-piece				
Spun rayon Cotton Artificial silk	each each each	13.50 18.00 32.00	12.00 13.75 26.50	10 23 17
Men's socks, spun rayon	pair	3.90	3.00	23
Men's socks, cotton	pair	6.30	5.25	16
Ladies' hose, ertificial silk	pair	11.90	9.00	24

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<u>Item</u>	Unit	Ola Price	New Price (DM)	Frice Reduction	
Curtains, soun rayon, 150 x 280	each	84.00	50.40	40	
Upholstering and interior deco- rating material	sq m	30.00	24.00	20	
Bed sheets, linen	each	21.50	64.10	30	
Fur coats, mutria	each	6,300.00	5,050.00	20	
Children's high shoes, pigskin with leather soles	pair	44.00	33.00	25	
Men's leather gloves	pair	46.00	34.50	25	
Curd soap, fat content 60%	100 g	.80	•70 ·	12	
Toilet soap, fat content 80%	100 g	1.80	1.60	11	
Bedroom suite, elm	com- plete	1,720.00	1,325.00	23	
Living room suite	com- plete	1,900.00	1,460.00	23	
Kitchen unit ivory	complete	900.00	690.00	23	
Couches	each .	540.00	415.00	23	
Armchairs	each	350.00	270.00	23	
Roll film, 6 x 9	each	2.50	1.75	30	
Flat film, Kodak, 12 x 16.5, 20 sheets	pkg	14.00	7.00	50	
Casseroles, 20 cr circumference, aluminum	each	4.80	4.15	13	
Household brushes, natural bristles	each	35.00	27.60	21	
Porcelain vases	each	30.00	24.00	20	

# Examples of Price Changes Since Establishment of HO

<u>Item</u>	Unit	HO Price 7 Oct 49 (DM)	HO Price 7 Oct 50 (DM)		After	Reduction From Last Price (\$)	Reduction Since 7 Oct 49 (%)	
Marmalade, single fruit	500 g	6.25	5.00	2.00	1.05	52	83	
Preserves	500 g	7.90	5.00	2.55	1.22	52	85	

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<u>Item</u>	Unit	HO Price 7 Oct 49 (DM)	HO Price 7 Oct 50 (DM)	Present HO Price (DM)	After	Reduction From Last Price	
Artificial honey							
Bulk Packaged	500 g 500 g	7.00 7.00	3.00 3.00	2.10 2.10	0.63 0.68	70 68	90 90
Fine baked goods							
Frankfuri cof- fee cake Vienna cake	80 g 75 g	2.55 2.60	1.40 1.20	1.40 1.20	1.30 1.00	7 17	49 62
Durable baked goo	đв						
Cookies Hard cookies	250 g 250 g	7.50 6.70	3.75 3.00	2.75 2.15	2.45 1.85	11 14	67 72 (1)

The following price reductions, effective 9 December 1951, have been announced for the HO shops in the German Democratic Republic and East Berlin.

## Reduction in Food Prices

<u>Item</u>	Average Price Reduction (%)
Rice, hulled and polished	28
Egg noodles, etc.	
	20
Sugar	25
Honey	25
Poppy seed	37•5
Butter	16
Salad oil	15
Margarine	14
Cheese with high fat content	20
Fresh meat	25
Meat products	20
Slaughter fats	12.5
Powdered skim milk	33 1/3
Sweets, categories I to III	15
Black tea	50
Alcoholic beverages	50
Grape wines from USSR and Peoples' Democracies as well as sparkling grape and fruit beverages and French wine	•
Beer	25
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# Old and New Prices Compared

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<u>Item</u>	Unit	HO Price 8 Dec 51 (DM)	Ho Price 9 Dec 51 (DM)
Rice, hulled and polished	500 g	3.00	2.20
Egg-noodles, etc.	500 g	1.75	1.40
Cornstarch (Maizena)	250 g	1.00	0.75
Sugar	500 g	2.00	1.50
Honey	500 g	6.00	4.50
Poppy seed	500 g	4.00	2.50
Fresh meats	_		2.,0
Pork chors Pork belly Beef, rolled Meat products	500 g 500 g 500 g	8.50 6.50 8.00	6.40 4.90 6.00
Salami Braunschweiger /Sausages/ Bockwurst with rolls Fats	500 g 500 g 100 g	11.50 10.00 1.94	9.25 8.00 1.55
· · ·			
Lard, rendered Butter Rape seed oil Margarine Cheese (fat content 31 to 40 percent) Powdered skim milk	500 g 500 g Liter 500 g 500 g 500 g	11.00 12.00 16.00 7.00 6.40 3.00	9.50 10.00 13.60 6.25 5.10 2.00
Sweets, casegories I to III			
Hard Candy Caramels, filled Cream toffees Black tea	30 g 125 g 125 g	0.24 1.00 1.55	0.20 0.85 1.30
"Red" Brand "Green" Brand	10 g	1.55	0.80
Alcoholic beverages	10 g	1.35	0.70
Brandy, first quality, 64 proof Adlershof Vodka, 80 proof Liqueur 70 proof, 300 g sugar per liter	0.7 lit 0.7 lit 0.7 lit	14.80 19.50 17.95	7.05 9.25 9.00
dines			
Hungarian white wine, vintage 1950 Hungarian after-dinner wine, white and red Bulgarian white wine French red wine, vintage 1950 Soviet table wine	0.7 lit 0.7 lit 0.7 lit 0.7 lit 0.7 lit	10.00 12.00 8.00 12.00 16.00	7.50 9.00 6.00 9.00 12.00

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#### HO Price HO Price 8 Dec 51 (DM) Unit 9 Dec 51 (DM) Double carsmel, 12% Book beer, 16% 0.33 lit 0.33 lit 0.75 0.67 0.97 Refreshment bars Cocoa (8 g cocoa, 20 g sugar, 1/8 lit fresh milk) cup 1.40 Coffee, black (5 g coffee) 1.10 0.95 cup 1.25

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Industrial Goods Reductions	
Item	Average Price Reduction
Natural-silk fabrics	(%)
Worsted yarn fabrics, containing wool	35
	15
Material for curtains and finished goods, cotton and mixed fabrics	25
Yard goods and finished bed sheets, tablecloths, and household	
Cotton	
Linen	25 20
Ladies' hose, artificial silk	25
Ties, scarfs, and kerchiefs of silk and artificial silk	
Ladies' and children's ready-made dresses, silk	25
Ready-made fur garments, rabbit, leopard, and ocelot	20
Men's and ladies' shoes, pigskin, suede, and split leather	20
Children's shoes of kidekin bushali	30
Children's shoes of kidskin, buckskin, box calf, calfskin, w'th rubber or leather soles	1ó
Leather goods made of split leather, upper leather, goat leather, and sheep leather	10
	20
Clocks and alarm clocks	25
Radios, de luxe	10
Camera, Contax S, Biotar lens 1:2, 5.8 cm, with aperture selector	33 1/3
Electric and flash bulbs	50
Music cabinets and chests	20
"Weimar" and "Reichenback" china	
Silver jewelry with genuine or synthetic stones or amber	16#
of amber	25

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<u>Item</u>	Average Price Reduction (%)
Portable sewing machines	13*
Portable typewriters	30
Trucks, delivery trucks, passenger cars	15
BMW (Bavarian Motor Works) motorcycles	17*
* General consumer price	-•

Old and New Compared				
<u>Item</u>	Unit	HO Price 8 Dec 51 (DM)	HO Price 9 Dec 51 (DM)	Avg Price Reduction (%)
Dress material, natural silk, 90 cm wide	meter	56.50	36.50	35
Suiting, worsted yarn containing wool, 140 cm wide	meter	42.00	35-50	15
Curtain goods, mixed cotton yarn,150 cm wide	meter	13.50	10.20	25
Short curtains, mixed cotton yarn, 150 x 280 cm	each	58.80	43.50	<b>2</b> 6
Yard goods for household linens, cotton, 80 cm wide	meter	8.8c	6.60	25
Tablecloths, linen, 130-160 cm	each	31.80	25.50	20
Material for bed sheets, linen, 80 cm wide	meter	12.80	10.30	20
Ladies' hose, artificial silk	pair	7.25	5.50	25
Ties, artificial silk	each	9.50	7.60	20
Ties; silk	each	21.00	14.50	30
Scarfs, natural silk	each	43.50	35.50	20
Ladies' dresses, silk	each	125.00	97.10	20
Ladies' fur coats, leopard, rabbit	each	850.00	635.00	25
Ladies' fur jackets	each	555.00	475.00	15
Men's suede shoes, rubber soles	pair	82.00	57.00	30
Ladles' pumps, pigskin, rubber soles	pair	68.00	48.00	30



<u> Item</u>	Unit	HO Pric 8 Dec 5 (DM)		Avg Price Reduction
Children's boots, neat's leather leather soles	r, pair	40.00	, ,	10
Men's wrist watches, high-grade steel case, 11-15 jewels	each	240.00	180.00	25
Radios, Super RFT 7, E 81, 7 tubes, 8 circuits	each	850.00	765.00	10
Miniature cameras, Contax S, Biotar lens 1:2, 5.8 cm, with aperture selector	each	3,000.00	2,000.00	33 1/3
Light bulbs, 25 watt	each	4.00	2.00	• •
Music cabinets "Erfurt", five tubes, six circuits, with record player	ì each	1,1000.00		50
Reichenbach coffee sets, three- piece		_,	912.00	18
Weimar china coffee sets, 15-	set	25.20	21.00	16
Piece  Ladies' rings, silver with gold	set	86.50	72.00	16
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	each	69.00	49.70	28
Cigarette holders, silver	each	8.00	6.60	18
Portable typewriters, Olympia, Plana B	each	485.00	(40.00	30
Delivery truck, frame 501, one-ton	each	9,500.00	8,100.00	15
DKW (German Motor Vehicle Works) passenger automobiles, Ifa F 8, de luxe				
EMW motorcycles, 350 ccm	each.	13,500.00	11,325.00	16
	each	3,000.00	2,484.00	General Consumer Price
Mewa electric portable sewing machines	each	440.00	375.00	Normal

The following price reduction, effective 5 December 1951, have announced for the HO shops in the German Democratic Republic and East Berlin.

<u>Item</u>	Unit (g)	Old Price	New Price
Proposition 1	(8)	(DM)	(DM)
French beans	500	1.46	1.30
Strained spinach	250	0.73	0.65
	750	1.68	1.35

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Sliced cucumbers	Unit (g)	Old Price (DM)	New Price (DM)
	325	0.96	o <b>.</b> 58
Morellos, with stones	650	1.92	1.15
	660	2.16	1.95
Plums, halved, sugared Apple sauce	720	2.40	2.16
	800	1.89	1.80
Special applesauce	400	0.94	0.90
	800	2.11	1.90
_	400	1.06	0.95
The above are products of the	"Solo Feinfrost"	Company. (	3)

## SOURCES

- 1. Berlin, Tenglishe Rundschau, 6 Oct 1951
- 2. Ibid., 9 Dec 1051
- 3. Leipzig, Leipziger Volkszeitung, 6 Dec 1951

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